

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. An image processing apparatus capable of accessing a recording medium on which has been recorded image data representing a plurality of images, comprising:

an ordered-image designating device for designating an ordered image to be printed from among images represented by image data that has been stored on the recording medium; and

an ordering information storage device for storing, in association with the ordered image, ordering information for the ordered image designated by said ordered-image designating device, and key information for verifying the ordered image.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the key information is at least one of partial image data representing part of the ordered image, a checksum of the ordered image, data representing the time at which the image data representing the ordered image was recorded on the recording medium, and data representing a random number generated at recording of the ordered image.

3. An image printing control apparatus comprising:

a reading device for reading, from a recording medium on which have been recorded image data representing an image, first key information, which is provided for each item of the image data, relating to the image data, ordering information

for specifying an ordered image to be printed, and second key information relating to the ordering information, said image data, said first key information, said ordering information and said second key information;

key-information retrieval means for retrieving the first key information and the second key information regarding image data representing the ordered image specified by the ordering information; and

printing control means for printing the ordered image by a printing device if said key-information match determination means has determined that the first key information matches the second key information and for executing error processing if said key-information match determination means has determined that the first key information does not match the second key information.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first key information and the second key information is at least one of partial image data representing part of the ordered image, a checksum of the ordered image, data representing the time at which the image data representing the ordered image was recorded on the recording medium, and data representing a random number generated at recording of the ordered image.

5. The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a display device for displaying an ordered image; and
a print-verification instruction input device for inputting a print verification instruction;

wherein said printing control means displays the ordered image on said display device in accordance with the error processing and controls the printing device so as to print the ordered image in response to the print verification instruction from said print-verification instruction input means.

6. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said printing control means responds to the error processing regarding a plurality of ordered image by controlling the printing device so as to print fewer ordered images than said plurality of ordered images.

7. A method of designating a print image in an image processing apparatus capable of accessing a recording medium on which has been recorded image data representing a plurality of images, comprising the steps of:

designating an ordered image to be printed from among images represented by image data that has been stored on the recording medium; and

storing, in association with the ordered image, ordering information for the ordered image designated, and key information for verifying the ordered image.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the key information is at least one of partial image data representing part of the ordered image, a checksum of the ordered image, data representing the time at which the image data representing the ordered image was recorded on the recording medium, and data representing a random number generated at recording of the ordered image.

9. An image printing control method comprising the steps of:

reading, from a recording medium on which have been recorded image data representing an image, first key information, which is provided for each item of the image data, relating to the image data, ordering information for specifying an ordered image to be printed, and second key information relating to the ordering information, said image data, said first key information, said ordering information and said second key information;

retrieving the first key information and the second key information regarding image data representing the ordered image specified by the ordering information;

determining whether the first key information found matches the second key information found; and

printing the ordered image by a printing device if it has been determined that the first key information matches the second key information and executing error processing if it has been determined that the first key information does not match the second key information.